



Department of Housing and Urban Development – Alphonso Jackson, Secretary
Office of Public Affairs, Nashville TN

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FOR RELEASE

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HUD ANNOUNCES MIDDLE TENNESSEE HISPANIC FESTIVAL TO PROMOTE HOMEOWNERSHIP

Fiesta del Hogar expected to draw thousands at Nashville's Municipal Auditorium

NASHVILLE – The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Nashville Field Office will team with the National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals of Middle Tennessee (NAHREPMT) and the Middle Tennessee Hispanic Partnership to present Fiesta del Hogar de Centro Tennessee – Housing Festival of Middle Tennessee on Sunday, June 19, 2005 beginning at 2:00 pm at the Nashville Municipal Auditorium which will also be spotlighting a Mexican rodeo.

Mr. Miguel Torres, Director of Affordable Housing Resources Hispanic Homeownership Center and President of NAHREPMT and William Dirl, HUD Nashville Field Office Director, announce the launching of the biggest Latino educational housing event in Tennessee's history. The event is designed to promote homeownership to the Latin community and all potential homebuyers in Middle Tennessee.

“This is going to be a wonderful event. Our partners are committed to bringing homeownership information to Middle Tennessee's growing Latino community. And the fact that we have been able to partner with the Mexican rodeo, which is taking place simultaneously at the municipal auditorium means that we will be able to reach an expected audience of over 8,000 people,” said Miguel Torres.

Information and registration information is available on HUD and this event on Tennessee's website and calendar of events seen at <http://www.hud.gov/tennessee> or <http://www.hud.gov/local/index.cfm?state=tn&topic=calendar>. Officials from across Middle Tennessee are expected to attend, including local, state and federal representatives and elected officials.

An opening ceremony will begin at 2:00 p.m. to show attendees that Middle Tennessee's Hispanic Partnership, a group composed of banks, lenders, housing agencies, housing counselors, non profits and government officials, are serious about promoting homeownership to anyone who is interested. Agencies that provide down payment assistance or have creative mortgage financing strategies will attend and provide needed on the spot Spanish translation. The event will provide food,

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fun, festivities, children zones, and live music. Please come and join us on a Sunday afternoon in Nashville.

On May 25, 2005, President Bush proclaimed June as National Homeownership Month. You may view the proclamation at < <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2005/05/20050525-14.html> >. Secretary of HUD, Alfonso Jackson recently kicked off HUD's "Owning Your Future" campaign to compliment the nation's commitment to increase homeownership. HUD's "Owning Your Future" website is located at < <http://www.owningyourfuture.gov/> >.

HUD is the nation's housing agency committed to increasing homeownership, particularly among minorities; creating affordable housing opportunities for low-income Americans; and supporting the homeless, elderly, people with disabilities and people living with AIDS. The Department also promotes economic and community development as well as enforces the nation's fair housing laws. More information about HUD and its programs is available on the Internet at www.hud.gov and espanol.hud.gov.

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